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EXAMINER	
AMINZAY, SHAIMA Q	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2684	

DATE MAILED: 08/26/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/090,415	LIU, MIKE MING	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Shaima Q. Aminzay	2684	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *11 July 2005*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-19 and 21-30* is/are rejected.

7)☒ Claim(s) *20* is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *27 February 2002* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

Note: The office action is being restructured for clarity. Examiner did not change the ground of rejection, but has changed the arguments of the rejection for clarity, and to reflect the new amendments to the independent claims 1 and 25 using the same references. The references Cronburg (Cronburg et al., U. S. Patent 3,401,340) in view of Aboukhalil (Aboukhalil et al. U. S. Patent 6,442,378) teach the limitations of the claims, and the Examiner shows (rejection bellow) that the referenced are related to the claimed limitations.

1. Applicant's arguments filed July 11, 2005 have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive.

The applicant argued features in claims 1 and 25 (starting middle of page 6 through the fist paragraph page 8) that "an input signal section directly coupled to both a first and second comparator", and "method of making a transponder circuit, comprising directly coupling an antenna to two separate comparators" to be established read upon Cronburg (Cronburg et al., U. S. Patent 3,401,340) in view of Aboukhalil (Aboukhalil et al. U. S. Patent 6,442,378). The Examiner respectfully disagrees. The Examiner pointing to the applicant's specification

paragraph [0021] as it is stating that "It will be appreciated that although the comparators 62, 64 are shown as directly connected to the antenna 60, the comparators 62, 64 may be coupled to the antenna 60 through various useful components". Cronburg discloses the communication system with improved reliability and power control or a booster circuit (transponder) as in Figure 1 that is directly coupled the pilot monitor 20 or the first comparator, and a pilot monitor 18 or the second comparator, and the power booster (transponder) circuit comprising of an antenna (14) directly coupled to the pilot monitor 20 or the first comparator, and a pilot monitor 18 or the second comparator via radio receiver channel A (10), and the radio receiver channel B (12)), and further, the applicant trying to overcome the rejection by arguing that Cronburg describes a diversity receiver arranged for use in a system configured for radio transmission over two different distinguished on a frequency basis. However, the examiner pointing out that Cronburg also discloses a power control or power booster circuitry (transponder), and further, the applicant trying to overcome the rejection by arguing that Aboukhalil's "fails to teach an input signal section", the Examiner respectfully disagrees, as stated in the rejection bellow that Aboukhalil teaches the input signal to an RF booster (transponder).

Further, the applicant argued features in claims 11 and 15 (second paragraph on page 8 through fourth paragraph on page 9) that "Cronburg does not describe a method of reducing power consumption, and that the diversity receiver described by Cronburg is concerned with selection of the best signal between

two channels", "no discussion in Cronburg of a method of reducing power consumption in a transponder circuit", and "Cronburg fails to describe activating a second comparator in response to an output from [a] first comparator". The Examiner respectfully disagrees. As discussed in the rejection bellow, Cronburg discloses a communication system such as controlling the gain and reducing the signal deterioration that is controlling the power consumption in a power control or a booster circuit (transponder with the output 26) in the system, and further, the second comparing means or pilot monitor 20 is being activated in response to the first comparing means or pilot monitor 18.

Further, the applicant argued features in claim 22 (last two paragraphs on page 9 through third paragraph on page 11) that the transponder circuit comprises "an input terminal; a first comparator, coupled to said input terminal; a second comparator, coupled to said input terminal; control circuitry, coupled to said first comparator and said second comparator, configured to control the operation of said second comparator by determining a validity status of a signal received from said first comparator" to be established read upon Cronburg (Cronburg et al., U. S. Patent 3,401,340) in view of Aboukhalil (Aboukhalil et al. U. S. Patent 6,442,378). The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Cronburg discloses controlling the gain and reducing signal deterioration that is controlling the power consumption in a power control or a booster circuit (transponder with the output 26) including the input terminal such as antenna (14) and the receivers (10, 12) coupled to the pilot monitor 18 (first comparator) and the pilot monitor 20

(second comparator), the control circuit (including several components) coupled to the first pilot monitor (first comparator) and the second pilot monitor (second comparator) with the second pilot monitor (second comparator) responsive (validating status) to the output from the first pilot monitor (first comparator). In a related art dealing with power booster (transponder) and communication system, Aboukhalil teaches the input signal to comparator.

Cronburg and Aboukhalil are both analogous to the applicants teaching, that's why they do obviate. Therefore, the rejection is maintained.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

2. Claims 15 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as being of undue breadth. A "single means" claim, i.e. where a means recitation does not appear in combination with another recited element or means, is subject to an undue breadth rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. See In re

Hyatt, 218 USPQ 195, (CAFC 1983) and MPEP 2164.08(a). This also applies for a "single step" method as in claims 15 and 25.

2164.08(a) Single Means Claim:

A single means claim, i.e., where a means recitation does not appear in combination with another recited element of means, is subject to an undue breadth rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. In re Hyatt , 708 F.2d 712, 218 USPQ 195 (Fed. Cir. 1983) (A single means claim which covered every conceivable means for achieving the stated purpose was held nonenabling for the scope of the claim because the specification disclosed at most only those means known to the inventor). When claims depend on a recited property, a fact situation comparable to Hyatt is possible, where the claim covers every conceivable structure (means) for achieving the stated property (result) while the specification discloses at most only those known to the inventor. Although the court in Fiers v. Sugano , 984 F.2d 164, 25 USPQ2d 1601 (Fed. Cir. 1993) did not decide the enablement issue, it did suggest that a claim directed to all DNAs that code for a specified polypeptide is analogous to a single means claim.

Claims 15 and 25 describe a method for transponder circuit with only single step. Claims 16-21 are rejected as depended upon rejected claim 15, and claims 26-27 are rejected as depended upon rejected claim 25.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-19, and 21-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.103(a) as being unpatentable over Cronburg (Cronburg et al., U. S. Patent 3,401,340) in view of Aboukhalil (Aboukhalil et al. U. S. Patent 6,442,378).

Regarding claim 1, Cronburg discloses transponder circuit comprising a input [signal] section directly coupled to both a first and a second comparator (see for example, Figure 1, column 2, lines 27-31, 44-48, 61-72 continued to column 3, lines 1-37, communication system power control or a booster circuit (transponder) comprising a received signal section directly coupled to the pilot monitor 20 (first comparator), and a pilot monitor 18 (second comparator)).

Cronburg does not specifically teach an input signal.

In a related art dealing with power booster (transponder) and communication system (see for example, figure 1, lines 6-8, lines 12-15, and lines 20-24), Aboukhalil teaches the direct connection of the input signal to the comparators (see for example, figure 1, column 5, lines 8-27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to include Aboukhalil's input signal with Cronburg's

communication system power control circuit to provide "improved power control" booster (transponder) for wireless communications system (Aboukhalil, see for example, column 1, lines 6-8, and line 24).

Regarding claim 11, Cronburg discloses a method of reducing power consumption in a transponder circuit (see for example, Figure 1, column 1, lines 65-72, column 2, lines 27-31, 44-48, lines 66-70, column 3, lines 15-21, controlling the gain and reducing signal deterioration that is controlling the power consumption in a power control or a booster circuit (transponder with the output 26) in the system), comprising: activating a second comparator in response to an output from said first comparator (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, and lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, comparator response to the output from the other comparator).

Cronburg does not specifically teach the activation of the comparator prior to received signal, however, Cronburg inherently teaches the comparator is active prior to receiving the signal and comparing the received signal levels (see for example, Figure 1, receivers 10, and 12, column 2, lines 61-69, and column 3, lines 23-27).

In a related art dealing with power booster (transponder) and communication system (see for example, figure 1, lines 6-8, lines 12-15, and lines 20-24), Aboukhalil teaches the comparator is active prior to received signal (see for example, figure 1, column 5, lines 8-27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to include Aboukhalil's input signal to comparators with Cronburg's communication system power control circuit to provide "improved power control" booster for wireless communications system (Aboukhalil, see for example, column 1, lines 6-8, and line 24).

Regarding claim 15, Cronburg discloses a method of operating a transponder circuit (see for example, Figure 1, column 1, lines 65-72, column 2, lines 27-31, 44-48, lines 66-70, column 3, lines 15-21, communication system power controller or a booster circuit (transponder)), comprising routing a received [input] signal to a first comparator which is enabled and a second comparator which is disabled (see for example, Figure 1, column 2, lines 27-31, 44-48, 61-72 continued to column 3, lines 1-4,column 4, lines 40-48, column 6, lines 24-25, communication system power control or a booster circuit (transponder) comprising an input section (antenna 14), pilot monitor 20 (first comparator), and a pilot monitor 18 (second comparator), one is enabled and the other disabled), and enabling said second comparator in response to a signal output by said first comparator (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, and lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, comparator response to the output from the other comparator).

Cronburg does not specifically teach an input signal.

In a related art dealing with power booster (transponder) and communication system (see for example, figure 1, lines 6-8, lines 12-15, and lines 20-24),

Aboukhalil teaches the direct connection of the input signal to the comparators (see for example, figure 1, column 5, lines 8-27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to include Aboukhalil's input signal with Cronburg's communication system power control circuit to provide "improved power control" booster (transponder) for wireless communications system (Aboukhalil, see for example, column 1, lines 6-8, and line 24).

Regarding claim 22, Cronburg discloses a transponder circuit (see for example, Figure 1, column 1, lines 65-72, column 2, lines 27-31, 44-48, lines 66-70, column 3, lines 15-21, controlling the gain and reducing signal deterioration that is controlling the power consumption in a power control or a booster circuit (transponder with the output 26)), comprising: an input terminal (see for example, Figure 1, the input terminal such as antenna (14) and the receivers (10, 12)); a first comparator coupled to said input terminal (see for example, Figure 1, coupled to the pilot monitor 18 (first comparator)); a second comparator coupled to said input terminal (see for example, Figure 1, and the pilot monitor 20 (second comparator) the pilot monitor 20 (second comparator) coupled to antenna (14) via receiver (12)); control circuitry coupled to said first comparator (see for example, Figure 1, column 4, lines 20-23, column 5, lines 29-39, the control circuit (including different components) is coupled to the pilot monitor (first comparator)), and control circuitry coupled to said second comparator (see for

example, Figure 1, column 4, lines 20-23, column 5, lines 29-39, the control circuit (including several components) coupled to the first pilot monitor (first comparator) and the second pilot monitor (second comparator)), configured to control the operation of said second comparator by determining a validity status of a signal received from said first comparator (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, with the second pilot monitor (second comparator) responsive (validating status) to the output from the first pilot monitor (first comparator)).

Cronburg does not specifically teach an input signal.

In a related art dealing with power booster (transponder) and communication system (see for example, figure 1, lines 6-8, lines 12-15, and lines 20-24), Aboukhalil teaches the input signal to the comparator (see for example, figure 1, column 5, lines 8-27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to include Aboukhalil's input signal with Cronburg's communication system power control circuit to provide "improved power control" booster (transponder) for wireless communications system (Aboukhalil, see for example, column 1, lines 6-8, and line 24).

Regarding claim 25, Cronburg discloses a method of making a transponder circuit (see for example, Figure 1, column 1, lines 65-72, column 2, lines 27-31, 44-48, lines 66-70, column 3, lines 15-21, communication system power

controller or a booster circuit (transponder)), comprising direct coupling an antenna to two separate comparators (see for example, Figure 1, column 2, lines 27-31, 44-48, 61-72 continued to column 3, lines 1- lines 1-37, communication system power control or a booster circuit (transponder) comprising of an antenna (14) directly coupled to the pilot monitor 20 (first comparator), and a pilot monitor 18 (second comparator) via radio receiver channel A (10), radio receiver channel B (12)).

Cronburg does not specifically teach an input signal.

In a related art dealing with power booster (transponder) and communication system (see for example, figure 1, lines 6-8, lines 12-15, and lines 20-24), Aboukhalil teaches the input signal to the comparator (see for example, figure 1, column 5, lines 8-27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to include Aboukhalil's input signal with Cronburg's communication system power control circuit to provide "improved power control" booster (transponder) for wireless communications system (Aboukhalil, see for example, column 1, lines 6-8, and line 24).

Regarding claim 28, Cronburg discloses a transponder circuit comprising an [input] signal section coupled to both a first and a second comparator (see for example, Figure 1, column 2, lines 27-31, 44-48, 61-72 continued to column 3, lines 1-37, communication system power control or a booster circuit

(transponder) comprising a received signal section consists of antenna 14, radio receiver channel A (10), radio receiver channel B (12) directly coupled to the pilot monitor 20 (first comparator), and a pilot monitor 18 (second comparator)), wherein said first comparator consumes less power than said second comparator (see for example, column 4, lines 40-47, the pilot monitor 20 (first comparator) covers for the low power gain, and consumes less power).

Cronburg does not specifically teach an input signal, however, Cronburg teaches the direct connection of the comparator to the input signal through the receiver (see for example, Figure 1, receivers 10, and 12, column 2, lines 61-69, and column 3, lines 23-27).

In a related art dealing with power booster (transponder) and communication system (see for example, figure 1, lines 6-8, lines 12-15, and lines 20-24), Aboukhalil teaches the direct connection of the input signal to the comparators (see for example, figure 1, column 5, lines 8-27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to include Aboukhalil's input signal with Cronburg's communication system power control circuit to provide "improved power control" booster (transponder) for wireless communications system (Aboukhalil, see for example, column 1, lines 6-8, and line 24).

Regarding claim 29, Cronburg discloses a transponder circuit comprising an [input] signal section coupled to both a first and a second comparator (see for

example, Figure 1, column 2, lines 27-31, 44-48, 61-72 continued to column 3, lines 1-37, communication system power control or a booster circuit (transponder) comprising a received signal section consists of antenna 14, radio receiver channel A (10), radio receiver channel B (12) directly coupled to the pilot monitor 20 (first comparator), and a pilot monitor 18 (second comparator)), wherein said second comparator operates at a higher speed than said first comparator (see for example, column 4, lines 40-47, column 2, lines 44-48, the pilot monitor 10 (second comparator) covers for the high power gain, higher performance, consequently operating in a higher speed).

Cronburg does not specifically teach an input signal.

In a related art dealing with power booster (transponder) and communication system (see for example, figure 1, lines 6-8, lines 12-15, and lines 20-24), Aboukhalil teaches the direct connection of the input signal to the comparators (see for example, figure 1, column 5, lines 8-27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to include Aboukhalil's input signal with Cronburg's communication system power control circuit to provide "improved power control" booster (transponder) for wireless communications system (Aboukhalil, see for example, column 1, lines 6-8, and line 24).

Regarding claim 30, Cronburg discloses a transponder circuit (see for example, Figure 1, column 1, lines 65-72, column 2, lines 27-31, 44-48, lines 66-

70, column 3, lines 15-21, communication system power controller or a booster circuit (transponder)), comprising: an input terminal (see for example, Figure 1, antenna (14) input terminal is connected to the receivers (10, 12) connected to the input of pilot monitors (18, 20));

a first comparator coupled to said input terminal (see for example, Figure 1, antenna (14) input terminal is connected to the receivers (12) connected to the input of the first pilot monitor 20 (first booster or transponder)) and configured for operating at a first speed and a first power consumption level (see for example, column 4, lines 40-47, the pilot monitor 20 (first comparator) covers for the low power gain or being the first with lower power consumption (lower speed), consequently operating at a first speed);

a second comparator coupled to said input terminal (see for example, Figure 1, antenna (14) input terminal is connected to the receivers (10) connected to the input of the second pilot monitor 10 (second booster or transponder)) and configured to operate at a higher speed and a higher power consumption level than said first comparator (see for example, column 4, lines 40-47, column 2, lines 44-48, the pilot monitor 10 (second comparator) covers for the high power gain or being the second with higher power consumption (higher speed), consequently operating in a higher speed); and control circuitry coupled to said first comparator (see for example, Figure 1, column 4, lines 20-23, Schmitt Trigger 44 (control circuit) connected to the first pilot monitor 20 (first booster or transponder)), and said second comparator (see for example, Figure 1, column

4, lines 20-23, Schmitt Trigger 42 (control circuit) connected to the second pilot monitor 10 (second booster or transponder)), and configured to enable said second comparator in response to a signal output by said first comparator (see for example, column 6, lines 24-41, column 4, lines 40-48, selecting (enabling) second comparator to the output from the other comparator).

Cronburg does not specifically teach an input signal.

In a related art dealing with power booster (transponder) and communication system (see for example, figure 1, lines 6-8, lines 12-15, and lines 20-24), Aboukhalil teaches the direct connection of the input signal to the comparators (see for example, figure 1, column 5, lines 8-27).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to include Aboukhalil's input signal with Cronburg's communication system power control circuit to provide "improved power control" booster (transponder) for wireless communications system (Aboukhalil, see for example, column 1, lines 6-8, and line 24).

Regarding claims 2 and 26, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claims 1 and 25, and further Cronburg teaches wherein said first comparator consumes less power than said second comparator (see for example, column 4, lines 40-47, the pilot monitor 20 (first comparator) covers for the low power gain, and consumes less power).

Regarding claims 3, 13, and 24, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claims 1, 11, 22, and further, Cronburg teaches wherein said second comparator operates at a higher speed than said first comparator (see for example, column 4, lines 40-47, column 2, lines 44-48, the pilot monitor 10 (second comparator) covers for the high power gain, consequently operating in a higher speed).

Regarding claim 4, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 1, and further, Cronburg teaches wherein said second comparator is only enabled when a predefined signal is detected at said first comparator (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, and lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, comparator response to the output from the other comparator).

Regarding claim 5, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 1, and further, Cronburg teaches wherein a reference voltage for said first comparator is adjustable during circuit operation (see for example, column 4, lines 20-23, comparators are adjustable).

Regarding claim 6, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 1, and further, Cronburg teaches wherein a reference voltage for said second comparator is adjustable during circuit operation (see for example, column 4, lines 20-23, comparators are adjustable).

Regarding claim 7, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 1, and further, Cronburg teaches validating input signal in response to a signal from said first comparator (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, validating input signal in response to comparator signal).

Regarding claim 8, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 7, and further, Cronburg teaches , wherein said second comparator is only active when said validation circuitry validates said input signal (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, and lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, comparator response to the input signal).

Regarding claim 9, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 1, and further, Cronburg teaches wherein valid receive signal processing is only performed on a signal produced by said second comparator (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, and lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, validating signal produced by the comparator).

Regarding claim 10, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 1, and further, Cronburg teaches wherein said second comparator turns off when a voltage level of said input signal is below a voltage level of a reference voltage signal received at said second comparator (see for example, column 4, lines 40-47, second comparator turns off when input signal voltage level is below the reference

voltage).

Regarding claims 12, 17, and 23, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claims 11, 15, 22, and further, Cronburg teaches wherein said first comparator consumes less power than said second comparator (see for example, column 4, lines 40-47, the pilot monitor 20 (first comparator) covers for the low power gain, and consumes less power).

Regarding claim 14, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 11, and further, Cronburg teaches transponder signal processing only on a signal produced by said second comparator (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, and lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, validating signal produced by the comparator).

Regarding claim 16, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 15, and further, Cronburg teaches comprising operating said second comparator only after a predefined signal received at said first comparator has been validated (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, and lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, signal received by the comparator).

Regarding claim 18, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 15, and further, Cronburg teaches wherein a reference voltage for said first comparator is

equal to a reference voltage for said second comparator (see for example, column 4, lines 40-47, the first comparator stays the same as reference level and the second comparator operating above the reference voltage level)/

Regarding claim 19, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 15, and further, Cronburg teaches receive signal processing only on a signal received by said second comparator (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, and lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, validating signal produced by the comparator).

Regarding claim 27, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 26, and further, Cronburg teaches further comprising coupling an enable input of one of said comparators to a controller in the transponder circuit (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, and lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, enabling the input of one of the comparators).

Regarding claim 20, Cronburg in view of Aboukhalil teach claim 15, and further, Cronburg teaches adjusting a reference voltage for said first comparator and a reference voltage for said second comparator in response to information received from said input signal (see for example, column 6, lines 24-25, and lines 34-41, column 4, lines 40-48, signal received by the comparator).

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claim 20 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The prior art specifically Cronburg and Aboukhalil failed to render obviousness in combination or individually and failed to anticipate individually the following underlined limitations:

"activating an oscillator upon detection of a signal at said first comparator, driving a signal validation circuit with a signal from said oscillator, validating said predefined signal from said first comparator at said validation circuit, and activating additional transponder circuit components following signal validation" as disclosed in claim 20.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire

THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shaima Q. Aminzay whose telephone number is 571-276-7874. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 AM -5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nay Maung can be reached on 571-272-7882. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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Art Unit 2684

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